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- 1 -

Application No. 09/924,120
Docket No. 740819-616

28/2/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:)
Mitsuru SEKIGUCHI et.al.)
Serial No. 09/924,120)
Filed: August 8, 2001)
For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND)
METHOD FOR FABRICATING THE SAME)

Examiner Lynne Ann Gurley
Group Art Unit: 2812 ✓

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, July 15, 2003.

07/17/2003 FFAHAEIA 00000120 09924120

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Signature:

Linda Ritter

Name: Linda Ritter

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed.

A check in the amount of \$180 is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)

The undersigned certifies that either (1) each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in connection with a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this statement, or (2) no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

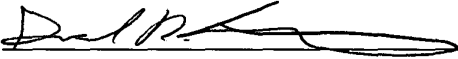
Enclosed is a copy of the Notice of Reasons of Rejection dated April 30, 2003, for a corresponding Japanese patent application together with the references cited therein.

Please note cited reference U.S. 6,306,756 corresponds to JP 08-316233 which was cited in the Notice of Reasons of Rejection. Additionally, U.S. 6,511,910 B2 which was also cited in the Notice of Reasons of Rejection corresponds to JP 2000-195954.

It is requested that the accompanying PTO-1449 be considered and made of record in the above-identified application. To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initial a copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

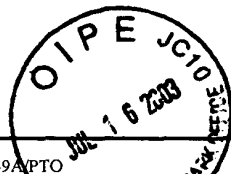
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees connected with this filing which may be required now, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2380. (740819-616)

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Donald R. Studebaker
Registration No. 32,815

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	09/924,120
				Filing Date	August 8, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Mitsuru SEKIGUCHI
				Art Unit	2812
				Examiner Name	Lynne Ann Gurley
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	740819-616

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-6,306,756 B1	10-23-2001	Hasunuma et. al.	
		US-6,511,910 B2	01-28-2003	Asahina et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP 10-229084 A	08-25-1998	Awaya et al.		Abstract
		JP 08-316233 A	11-29-1996	Hasunuma et. al.		Abstract
		JP 2000-195954 A	07-14-2000	Asahina et al.		Abstract

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		NOTICE OF REASONS OF REJECTION (DATED APRIL 30, 2003) WITH TRANSLATION	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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